जिससे नदी का पानी हरा हो गया।

(ग) राज्य के सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य विभाग ने नदी के जल की जांच की है और जांच से पता चला कि इससे लोगों के स्वास्थ्य तथा जलीय जीवन पर कोई प्रतिकूल प्रभाव नहीं पड़ा। महाराष्ट्र प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड नदी के जल की गुणवत्ता की मानीटरिंग कर रहा है और उद्योगों द्वारा एक निश्चित समय-सीमा के अन्दर निर्धारित मानकों का अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करवा रहा है।

चिल्का झील में झींगा-पालन परियोजना

233. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चिल्का झील में झींगा-पालन परियोजना से पर्यावरण पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों की जांच के लिए एक विशेष दल का गठन किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या उस दल ने अपनी सिफारिशें दे दी हैं; यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) चिल्का झील के प्राकृतिक स्वरूप को बनाये रखने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जाने का विचार है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन सिंह): (क) और (ख) उड़ीसा राज्य सरकार ने चिल्का झील में झींगा पालन परियोजना का पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव मूल्यांकन अध्ययन करने के लिए मैसर्स वाटर एंड पावर कनसलटेंसी सर्विसेस लिमिटेड को काम सौंपा है। राज्य सरकार को सलाह दी गई है कि वे विशेषज्ञों के एक बहु-विषयी दल द्वारा एक व्यापक पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव मूल्यांकन अध्ययन करवाएं। यह अध्ययन अभी पूरा नहीं हुआ है।

(ग) चिल्का झील को पहले ही अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व की नम भूमि के तौर पर नामोदिष्ट किया जा चुका है और यह नम भूमि और वन्यजीवों के संरक्षण के राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत शामिल है। आवाह क्षेत्रों में मृदा संरक्षण, वास स्थलों के सुधार तथा चिल्का झील के संरक्षण के बारे में जागरुकता पैदा करने के लिए सहायता प्रदान की गई है।

Extinction of plants species

234. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 132 plant species face extinction and 24 plants are already extinct according to Botanical Survey of India; and

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to save the plant species from extinction?

THE MINISTER- OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) has estimated that about 10% of total plant species in the country (about 1500) are at various levels of survival risk and 24 plant species are possibly extinct, as these species are largely known from their historicaMype collection made several years ago and have also not been sighted during any recent botanical survey.

(b) Government have taken the following measures to save the plant species from extinction:

(i) The BSI is continuing its survey work and collection of data on rare, threatened and endemic species and efforts are being made for relocation and introduction of different species in the Botanic and Experimental Gardens and Orchidaria.

(ii) The BSI, which holds many rare species in its gardens, has also taken up tissue culture technique for mass multiplication and propagation.

(iii) Through Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & flora (CITES), efforts are being made to check/ban export of unlawful live collection of plants.

(iv) The Government have enacted legislation for forest and wildlife

preservation and conservation and have established a number of projected areas like national parks, sanctuaries and bio sphere reserves to prevent the loss of plant wealth.

(v) Special schemes for conservation of mangroves and wetlands have been initiated.

(vi) A beginning has been made to encourage rearing of threatened plants in well-established Botanic Gardens of different Universities.

(vii) Measures have been taken to create greater public awareness in favour of conservation of plant wealth.

Exploitation of biological resources by developed countries

235. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the protests raised by botanists from several Asian countries at the Botany 2000 Asia meet against the practice of exploitation biological resources by developed countries without any payment or benefit to the developing countries;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make any legislation to exercise control over the collection and export of biological material to extend support to indigenous evaluation of materials;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (d) Existing legislation like the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, Indian Forest Act 1927, Fisheries Act 1894, Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zones and other Maritime Zones Act 1976, Import and Export (Control) Act 1947 (alongwith Import and Export Policy announced from year to year) Custom Act 1962, Marine Products Export Development Authority Act 1972, Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act 1937, Seeds Act 1966, etc. already provide for some degree of control over the collection and export of biological material.

However, after signing the Convention on Biological Diversity recently, action has been initiated to undertake a comprehensive review of the existing legislative framework relating to conservation of biological diversity, which would include access to and transfer of genetic resources.

Foreign aid for the second phase of Ganga Action Plan

236. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:
SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the second phase of the Ganga Action Plan is likely to be completed over the next five years with the aid of foreign fund;

(b) if so, the details of the second phase of the Ganga Action Plan alnogwith the foreign aid likely to be received; and

(c) whether all the projects in the first phase of the Action Plan have been fully implemented; if so, the net results thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Schemes under the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase II are being formulated. Details in this regard are being worked out. the Overseas Economic Cooperation fund (OECF), Government of Japan, have pledged a loan of Rs. 401 crores for Yamuna component of GAP Phase II.

(c) Under the first phase of the Ganga Action Plan, out of 261 sanctioned schemes, 192 schemes have been completed. There is improvement in the